

reports that he and two young people watched a specimen of *A. iris* sunning itself on a bramble leaf in the copse at 0840 hrs. BST on 16th July, 1977. Mr. Keay made four further visits in the ensuing week, but without success.

As a result of his report, I contacted Mr. O. H. Frazer of Mottistone Mill, Brighstone, who tells me that he and his wife saw a Purple Emperor near their home at 1600 hrs. BST on 28th June, 1952. On each occasion the observer mentions being struck by the purple sheen on the insect, thus identifying it as a male.

I have visited both these localities, and although neither are ideal breeding grounds for *A. iris*, this seems of little significance since distances on the island are so small, and each is in close proximity to an area which looks quite suitable. Mr. Frazer tells me that a diligent search was made for larvae in Parkhurst Forest in 1954 and 1955 by Mr. J. Lobb, without success; but it does seem likely that the pleasure of adding the Purple Emperor to the Isle of Wight list of breeding butterflies is there for the taking by a lepidopterist with the requisite skill, diligence and luck. — D. W. H. FFENNELL, Martyr Worthy Place, nr. Winchester, Hampshire.

A NOTE FROM NORFOLK AND GUERNSEY. — The season in Norfolk was very late this year. At Hickling during the first week in August, *Phragmataecia castaneae* (Hbn.) was still out in plenty, and a single example of *Mythimna obsoleta* (Hbn.) was noted, the latest I have ever seen them. *Stathmopoda pedella* (L.) was frequent on alder leaves, and a few came to m.v. light. The only migrant noted was a single worn *Celerio lineata* (Esp.) on the night of 3rd/4th August.

I have just commenced trapping in Guernsey. There is ample opportunity for recording here, particularly the micro-lepidoptera which have not been updated since the days of Luff 50 years ago. At this time (mid-October) the commonest Noctuid is *Trigonophora flammea* (Esp.) with up to 25 examples in one night to m.v. It has been recorded on the island, from the local Horticultural Research Station, since 1971, and is undoubtedly resident. English entomologists should be on the look out for it, and it would be interesting to know its status on the adjacent French coast. — Dr. T. N. D. PEET, Le Chene, Forest, Guernsey, C.I.

A FURTHER RECORD OF INFURCITINEA ARGENTIMACULELLA STAINT. (LEP.: TINEIDAE) IN KENT. — On the 9th of July, 1977, whilst on my way to Faversham Creek to search for species of the Gelechiidae, I happened to espy the spire of St. Mary of Charity Parish Church of Faversham. I had seen the spire a number of times, but on this particular occasion wondered whether there were mossy walls in the churchyard, where I might find larvae or imagos of any of the moss-feeding species of the Gelechiidae.

I did find moss and lichen on the walls, but no evidence of the Gelechiidae. What I did find was larvae of *I. argenti-*

*maculella* Staint. The area colonised by this species is a damp wall of several square yards containing moss and lichen, and on which there were numerous meandering larval tubes. I scraped away a patch of lichen, gathered some larvae, and took them home, hoping to breed out a few moths.

I have since been surprised and dismayed by the number of parasites that have emerged. The final count was one moth, and fifteen parasites. This amazed me, as the amount of lichen I took home covered a space of about six inches by six inches. There must have been many more larvae embedded in the lichen. I have only once encountered but one parasite of *I. argentimaculella*, and that from a larva taken at Folkestone some years ago. Two weeks later I visited the wall again and found one solitary moth.

The evidence on the wall seemed to suggest the colony to be quite vigorous, but it looks as if there might have been a population crash; and next year may see very few moths at all, if the small patch of lichen I took home is any indication. — E. S. BRADFORD, 6 Maple Court, Drayton Road, Borehamwood, Herts.

A BILATERAL GYNANDROMORPH OF SCOTOPTERYX CHENOPODIATA (L.) (SHADED BROAD-BAR) IN SUSSEX. — On the 29th July, 1977, I caught a halved gynandromorph of *S. chenopodiata* on the downs near Seaford, the left side being wholly male and the right side wholly female. The specimen is in good condition. My attention was drawn to the gynandromorph as it fluttered to rest in the grass beside me and closed its wings, showing a colour contrast between the two sides. — R. M. CRASKE, 29 Salisbury Road, Hove, East Sussex.

AGONUM GRACILIPES DUFT. (COL.: CARABIDAE) IN SUSSEX, AND ITS DELETION FROM THE IRISH LIST. — My friend Mr. P. J. Hodge (who already has to his credit the addition of *Magdalis memnonia* Gyll. to our list, and other highly notable captures) took and correctly identified a specimen, which I have seen, of the above ground-beetle at m.v. light at Ringmer, near Eastbourne, 8.vii.75. *A. gracilipes*, one of our two very rare species of *Agonum*, has its headquarters on the Suffolk coast about Lowestoft, where it has been taken singly, often at longish intervals, from 1831 to the first decade or so of this century and possibly later; and might probably still be found there occasionally if worked for. It has occurred also on the Norfolk coast at Yarmouth, and perhaps on that of Yorkshire at Hornsea (cf. Fowler, 1887, *Col. Brit. Isl.*, 1: 91; Fowler & Donisthorpe, 1913, *ibid.*, 6: 207). Moore (*v. inf.*) marks it also for Cambs., but I feel that this should be queried, and his indication for Yorks. certainly should be. Claude Morley (1898, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, 34: 221-3) gave a history of the species in Britain up to that date. Its occurrence for the first time on or near the south coast is interesting, particularly if it results from, or heralds, an extension of the very restricted British range of this *Agonum*; but, of course, the beetle might equally have been a casual immigrant or wanderer.